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Dedham, May 21. 1840.

My Dear Friend:

Your most welcome & satisfactory letter came duly to hand. I heartily thank you for your full account of the history of our that St. circle & hope you will continue your journal of them for my benefit. Now that Deborah's return has diminished the number of your correspondents I think I can with more force request to be substituted in her place. I want to be kept au courant du jour as to the thousand little unnameablenesses which are continually turning up but which do not find their way into the grand folio's of the Liberator. In short I want to have the same sort of gossip with you all here at Dedham that I used to have around Henry's pleasant fireside. A modest request to make to be sure! But who's afraid? I hope I did n't have an Irishman for my grandfather by the mothers side, for nothing.

After I left you on Saturday I forthwith proceeded to Dedham — & truly it did seem like the garden of Eden after the sights & smells of New York. The country just in its freshest vernal bloom, refreshed by the rain of the day before ~~&~~ the fields white with apple-blossoms & the air laden with perfume made a contrast to be

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sure to the ~~dingy~~ ~~streets~~ houses, filthy streets & unutterable stenches of the cis-Atlantic Babylon. I felt

"Like one who long in populous city pent,
Where Houses thick & sewers annoy the air,
Forth issuing on a summer morn to breathe
Among the pleasant villages & farms
Adjoined &c—

only indeed it would be unjust to charge any of the atmospherical annoyances of New York to "sewers" as sewers there are none in the whole city.

In the afternoon we drove over to pay Mrs James Robbins a visit & had the satisfaction of being the first to carry to her the news of our victory. Her place looked charmingly & she herself is certainly one of the nicest little persons—one of the best & most loveable—~~that~~ I know. She sets forth on a Westward journey this week—I suppose has already gone.

On Sunday we had our opposition-line meeting at Mrs Tafts—for some portion of which troubling of the chambers ~~you~~ they may thank your pestilent whisperings at Quincy. As it had been intimated to me that I was expected to take the biggest part in the proceedings I had meditated with myself a good deal whether I had not better sink my peculiar views & accommodate myself to the people I was to be with. I soon concluded however ~~that~~ to do any good to myself or them I must go straight-forward holding nothing back. So accordingly I commenced by telling them my Quakerisms touching stated & ~~formal~~

prayer & gave them to understand that I was not to be
made a praying-machine. I proposed therefore that
our meetings should begin & end with a short pause,
when any brother or sister, who felt moved might pray-
& that this should be the only formality observed - in all
other respects the meeting should be as informal & conver-
-sational as might be. After one of the brethren had prayed
I read the interview of our Saviour with the woman of Samaria
& gave a monologue on True Worship - with which I thought
they seemed to be well contented. There were about eight present
besides children. But after they had dispersed Mrs Taft ~~told me~~ seemed
to think ~~that~~ I had upset the whole apple-cart by my ultraisms.
She thought that they would not be content with any thing short
of the regular forms to which they had been accustomed - beginning
with - "Let us commence the worship of God by singing the 145th Psalm"
through "let us read a portion &c" & "let us continue &c" down
to the benediction - including a regular sermon written by a
real genuine parson. And she entreated me to ~~accommodate~~ suffer with
the infirmities of the many & consent to harrow the valleys in
the old-fashioned way. I was somewhat taken aback by all this -
but as I claim to be as ~~un~~ little prejudiced against forms as in favor
of them I promised to try to be conformable. I resolved, however,
~~that~~ if we were to have a sermon it should be one worth having -
so I looked up one of Jeremy Taylor's, & proceeded something
dolorous & malcontent to Mr Hutchinson's where we met in the
afternoon. I then stated to them what I had understood
as to the way in which they wished the services to be conducted
& signified my willingness to submit to the voice & will of the
brotherhood. I was on the point of giving Jeremy a signal
to begin his sermon when ~~with~~ one after another they opened
upon me - declaring ~~that~~ they had no such idea at

all at all as to their proceedings - that they had not broken one set of fetters for the purpose of clapping a fresh set upon themselves - that if they were to be condemned to hear a sermon every Sunday - for ought they knew of a proslavery minister - they might as well stay & hear Dr. Burgess - in short, that they liked my notions as set forth in my morning discourse & begged I would hold fast to them. Whereat the cockles of my heart were rejoiced & I forthwith took Jeremy by the lawn sleeves & incontinently pitched him out of the pulpit window & bid him go about his business - for a popish prelatist as he was. I then discoursed with them about the duty of candidly entertaining the discussion of new opinions, however startling, & of never being afraid of Truth's being able to take care of herself. By way of a sample I broached to them my views on the Sabbath & the ministry - which I rather think were entirely new to most of them. They received them very kindly, although differing of course, & seemed very willing to examine them & every other opinion by the light of reason & Scripture. So that I trust I shall have in course of time as pretty a little nest of fanatics as one would wish to see of a summer's day. I think it no more than fair that you should come & evangelize a little this summer - considering the part you had in this separation.

Since Sunday I have ~~been~~ returned to planting potatoes & corn with the zeal of an old Roman after gaining a battle (though by the way I believe potatoes & indian corn were

not classical vegetables - but so much the worse for the
classics) & have been throwing about my manure with all
the majesty of Virgil in the Georgics. I work out of doors
several hours every day & shall soon exhibit a pair of
"huge paws" which will entitle me to the suffrages of the working
mens party.

I hope you have all recovered from your fatigues. I
was a little surprised to hear of your being so much overcome
as you all seemed so fresh when I left you. I suppose however
that you soon recovered as it is a physiological fact that the
soldiers of a victorious army recover of their wounds much sooner
than those of a defeated one. I am very curious to know the
result of the doings of the Foreign Society. It is evident that the N.E.
brethren despise the Mass.ts ones for the littleness of the mischief they
have effected & the Abolition Society & its agents & debts will have to
take care of themselves. Pray write me & keep me informed
of what passes great & small. You need not fear overrunning your
sheet if you overflow with intelligence as there is no postage
to pay. If you send anything to my brothers office when Henry goes
down in town in the morning it will reach me the same day.
You cannot send too often or too much - & among you all I am
sure you can ~~send~~ keep poor Pilgarlick ~~a good~~ well supplied with
Anti-Slavery & other small talk.

Tell Maria I am much obliged to her for my speech in the
last Liberator. I cannot but think ~~that~~ it is as much hers as mine at
least. For my impression was ~~that~~ it was ~~but~~ a spooney sort of an
affair - but if her report is correct it is one of the best speeches I ever made.
I have directed Johnson to send her my N.R. proofs to read for me. I presume
the last were read by her, as I requested, as they were the first articles I ever wrote
which I did not proof myself ~~that~~ did not contain blunders which made nonsense.
I hope some of you will have the goodness to read them for the sense only - leaving
spelling, stops &c to Johnson. I grieve to hear the accounts from Harriet Martineau.
Another candle in the Temple of Freedom is about to be extinguished! But is only to
be re-lighted ~~& placed in~~ to burn forever before the Throne of God. I shall be in town on Tuesday
to attend the Convention - but shall depend upon hearing from some of you before
then. I rec.d a notice to attend a Board meeting on Tuesday on important business -
but too late - what was the business? Love to all. God bless you!

Affectionately yours
Edmund Quincy.

Anne Warren Weston.
(at H. G. Chapman's.)
11 West Street.
Boston.